

## ABSTRACT

1           An automated, computer-based reading tutoring system is accessed via a computer system  
2 and includes a plurality of instructional passages of different, predetermined levels of reading  
3 difficulty. A semantic space module of the reading tutoring system operates on a semantic space,  
4 which is produced by a machine-learning method, to automatically evaluate a student-submitted  
5 summary of a selected instructional passage for congruence with the selected instructional passage  
6 and to automatically determine which instructional passage the student should optimally read next  
7 . The reading tutoring system includes immediate feedback data provided to the student and  
8 including an indicator reflective of the student's reading comprehension and the identity of the  
9 instructional passage that the student should read next. An automated, computer-based method  
10 of reading tutoring comprises the steps of receiving a student-submitted summary of a selected  
11 instructional passage from a domain of discourse, automatically evaluating the summary to obtain  
12 a measure of the student's reading comprehension and, based on this evaluation, automatically  
13 selecting an instructional passage for the student to read next.